

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00349 061031Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 MCE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
EB-08 MCT-01 /111 W
-----124253 061036Z /16

P R 060950Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5244
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USCINCEUR

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, LY, US
SUBJECT: LIBYA DENOUNCES US DENIAL OF C-130 SPARE PARTS AND
BOEINGS

REF: TRIPOLI 0302 (NOTAL)

1. ON MARCH 4, TRIPOLI NEWSPAPER AND RADIO CARRIED FACTUAL
REPORT THAT USG HAD BANNED SALE OF SPARE PARTS FOR LIBYAN
C-130 AIRCRAFT AND SALE OF BOEINGS TO LIBYAN AIRLINES. ARTICLE
ALSO NOTED USG HAD "SEIZED" EIGHT C-130S WHICH LIBYA HAD
PAID FOR IN 1972 AND HAD BANNED THEIR EXPORT TO LIBYA.

2. ON MARCH 4 AND 5 RESPECTIVELY, RADIO AND LOCAL NEWSPAPER
CARRIED IDENTICAL STATEMENTS BY "OFFICIAL LIBYAN SPOKESMAN"
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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00349 061031Z

DENOUNCING US ACTION IN BANNING EXPORTS OF C-130 SPARE PARTS
AND BOEINGS. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, AMERICA'S POLICY HAS
LOST "ITS SELF-RESPECT" BECAUSE THE DECISION "PROVED TO US
THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A RATIONAL AMERICAN POLICY."
AMERICAN POLICY SAID TO BE PRODUCT OF COMMUNITY OF CAPITALIST
EXPLOITATION, COMMUNITY OF SLAVES AND "JEWISH HATRED
OF SEMITISM, ISLAM AND ARABS." IT CLAIMED "AMERICAN

RULING GROUP HAS ALLIED ITSELF WITH JUDAISM AGAINST ISLAM," AND FOR THIS REASON, AMERICAN POLICY HAS ALWAYS BEEN UNREPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN INTERESTS AND "AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE."

3. EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT LIBYA HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH VARIOUS AMERICAN GROUPS WITH WHOM IT HAS MAINTAINED A DIALOGUE RESULTING IN "GOOD POPULAR RELATIONS," BECAUSE OF THE GROUPS' CONVICTION OF SOUNDNESS OF LIBYA'S POLICY AND THE "JUSTICE OF THE CAUSES IT SUPPORTS."

4. EDITORIAL REGRETTED "THAT THE POLICY OF A BIG POWER SHOULD BE SO CHILDISH, AND THAT IT PROCLAIMS ITS STANCES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WITHOUT THESE POSITIONS BEING BASED ON PROPER KNOWLEDGE OR ON DIALOGUE WITH THE SIDE CONCERNED." EDITORIAL STATED THAT US DECISION WAS A MOVE "AGAINST THE SMALL NATIONS THAT IS LIABLE TO MAKE THESE NATIONS HOSTILE TO THE UNITED STATES AND LINE UP WITH THE ENEMIES OF THE UNITED STATES. THIS IS THE OUTCOME OF THE FOOLISH AMERICAN POLICY."

5. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, THE US DECLARED ITS DECISION WAS BASED ON LIBYA'S OBSTRUCTION OF MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT AND THE QUESTION OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TRIPOL 00349 061031Z

STATEMENT DESCRIBED REASONING AS "COMPLETELY FALSE," BUT EVEN IF IT WERE TRUE, THE "AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT THE POLICEMAN OF THE WORLD," AND EVERY STATE IS FREE TO EXERCISE ITS POLICY. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED STATING THAT LIBYA WILL NOT CEASE SUPPORT OF PALESTINIANS.

6. EDITORIAL STATED THAT AS FOR THE US REFERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, LIBYA UNDERSTANDS "THE SORT OF TERRORISM THAT AMERICA MEANS. IT CONSIDERS THAT ANYONE WHO STANDS ON THE SIDE OF OPPRESSED PEOPLES AND ANYONE THAT SUPPORTS THE QUESTION OF LIBERATION, JUSTICE AND PEACE IS A TERRORIST."

7. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST LIBYAN DENUNCIATION EXPLICITLY LINKED TO BAN ON SALE OF C-130 SPARE PARTS AND BOEING AIRCRAFT AND BY LIBYAN STANDARDS IS RELATIVELY MILD. IT PURSUES STANDARD LIBYAN LINE OF DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN LIBYAN FRIENDSHIP FOR US PEOPLE AND LIBYAN PROBLEM WITH US GOVERNMENT AND "RULING CIRCLES" WHICH PURSUE POLICIES "AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE."

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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